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From: <gregk@VNET.IBM.COM>
To: A16.A16(rm8775)
Date: 4/5/96 9:35am
Subject: Internet phoning

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

It is my understanding that you are involved in some aspect of the internet being used as a telephone medium.
Would you please send me any info relative to this? Thanks...Greg Klipstein gregk@vnet.ibm.com

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From: <Donald.R.Norvell.idea@westworld.com>
To: A16.A16(rm8775)
Date: 4/4/96 11:46pm
Subject: comment on Internet phone regulation.

Please include these points in your considerations.

1. In the spirit of the new Communications legislation, the internet phone capabilities are strong competitive driving forces. It shouldn't be regulated merely to protect the phone companies. The capabilities of these new phone systems are being developed rapidly due to the wide open opportunities. Don't stymie it with unnecessary regulations. If and when situations develop where-in development slows due to some factors that can be corrected by regulation, then is the time to do it, not now.
2. The present bandwidth of the Internet will prevent it from being a serious threat to the phone system. The quality of the communications (delays and breaks) is already suffering from crowding. This will force its own restrictions on the use of internet phones. There will be a lot of pressure to expand the Internet bandwidth. The cost of that expansion will have to be absorbed by the Internet users, mainly the phone users.
3. As demonstrated by the phone companies getting into the Internet business, they have the capabilities to do everything the Internet is doing, (communication wise). If there is a need for regulation, perhaps it is restrictions on the phone companies potential to do harm to the Internet.
4. Be careful in crafting any regulations on internet phones. The use (and potential) of audio (voice and music) on the net is much wider than just telephony. Be precise and don't make broad rules

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From: Patrick Smith <pat@tesuji.qc.ca>
To: A16.A16(rm8775)
Date: 4/4/96 9:35pm
Subject: Free long distance phone calls

I saw this on the World-Wide Web, at http://nytsyn.com/live/Latest_columns/095_040496_114005_7926.html:

Should the Federal Communications Commission stop free long distance phone calls over the Internet? The FCC is accepting public comments on the question by e-mail, at [rm8775\(AT\)fcc.gov](mailto:rm8775(AT)fcc.gov). A coalition of 130 telecommunications companies asked the FCC in March to stop Internet phoning.

Here's one Canadian's opinion, for what it's worth to the US government...

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I think it's the wrong question. A better question would be

Should the FCC try to stop free long distance phone calls over the Internet?

(Note the addition of "try to".)

Put this way, it raises the question,

Can the FCC stop free long distance phone calls over the Internet?

To which the answer is clearly "no". Even if this is made illegal in the US, Americans will be able to get the software for this from elsewhere in the world. And they probably will. This would have about as much chance of succeeding as Prohibition did.

There will come a day when most homes have one wire for communications.

That wire will be used for the equivalents of today's telephone wires, cable television wires, Internet connections, video rentals, and possibly radio stations' signals, newspapers, and bookstores.

(That "one wire" might be one method of wireless communication instead.)

(I do not say when this will happen. But I believe it will happen eventually.)

The communications companies that profit in the long run will be the ones that adapt to this reality, not the ones that fight it.

-- Patrick Smith pat@tesuji.qc.ca

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From: Ormond Otvos <orbot@ewol.com>
To: A16.A16(RM8775)
Date: 4/4/96 7:43pm
Subject: Petition to deny use of Voice On Net Programs filed by ACTA

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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Gentlemen: I am extremely opposed to any action limiting the use of voice software on the Internet. If the Internet is the least expensive way to transfer information, then let it be. There is obviously a great deal of excess profit in the longdistance "game" which is being wrung out of the consumer. If the Internet needs more bandwidth, it will be supplied, by supply and demand, and by higher rates for Internet access. The action by ACTA will simply limit and hinder the market process. Once again, retain the free market for data transfer in real time. Thank you.

Rip: VONYES home page: <http://www.von.com/vonyes/>

CC: FCCMAIL.SMTP("yarnar@peganet.com")

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APR 5 1996

From: Joe <joe@TAOS.COM>
To: A16.A16(rm8775)
Date: 4/4/96 7:37pm
Subject: Public Notice Report (#2124)

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Hello,

I am a user of internet telephony services. The recent attempt by the ACTA to curb telephony services on the internet is very much like the Post Office saying that email is illegal because the correspondence doesn't go through them.

What the ACTA is failing to realize is that the majority of information transmitted via telephonic devices of the internet is transferred through telephone lines!

Please stop this misuse of government process by the money-hungry telephone companies. The CONSUMER'S interests MUST be protected!

Sincerely,

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Joe Peden jpeden@heald.edu

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20541

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